

2007 RHIC & AGS Annual Users' Meeting

June 18-22, 2007 at Brookhaven National Laboratory



Theoretical Overview

Probing the Nucleon's Spin Structure with Longitudinally Polarized Beams

Marco Stratmann



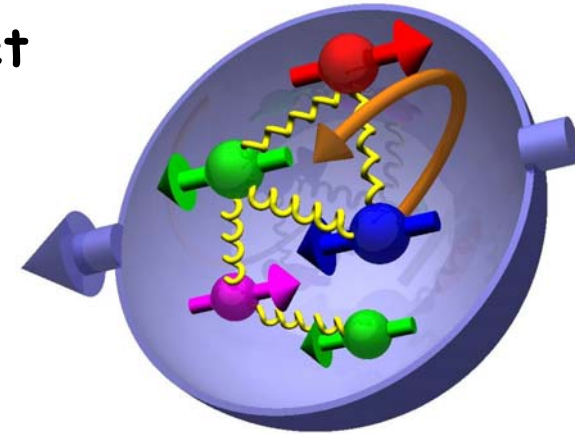
■ main objective with long. polarization

- we want to understand the nucleon's spin budget in terms of

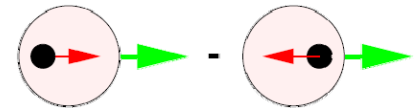
- total spin polarizations $\int \Delta f(x, \mu) dx$
- orbital angular momenta

of quarks and gluons

- to achieve this goal we have to extract the fully **x-dependent** helicity parton densities $\Delta f(x, \mu)$ from experiment



$$\Delta f(x) \equiv f_{+}^{N+}(x) - f_{-}^{N+}(x)$$



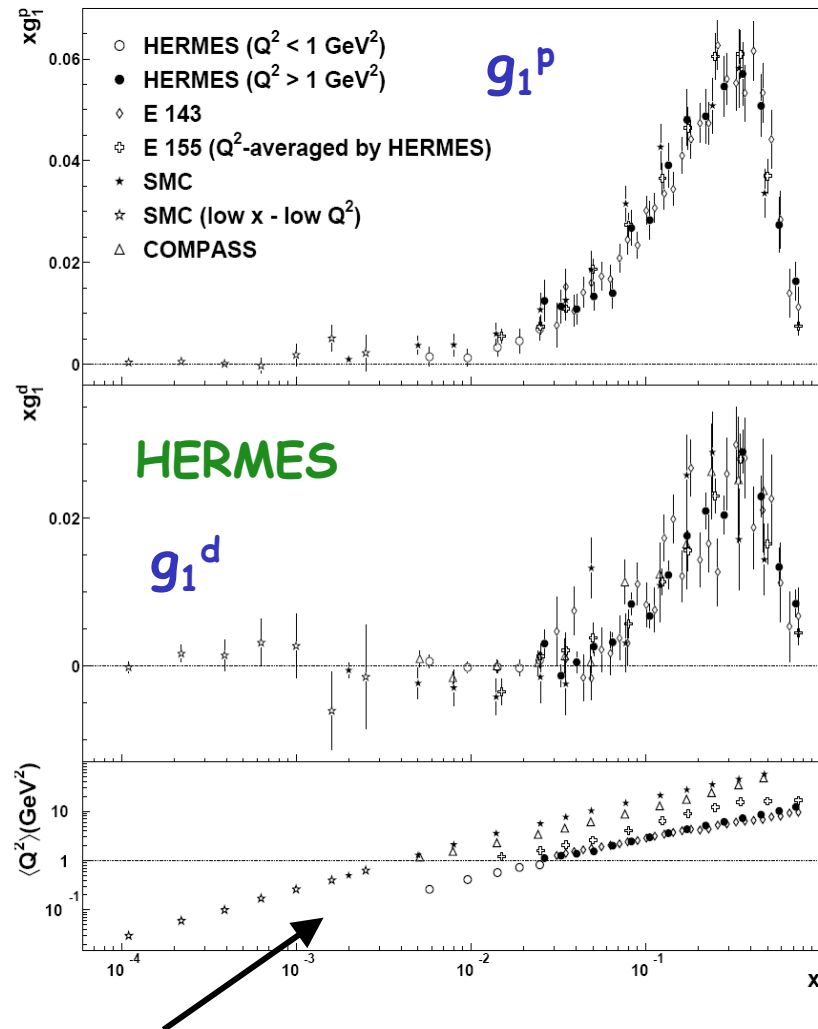
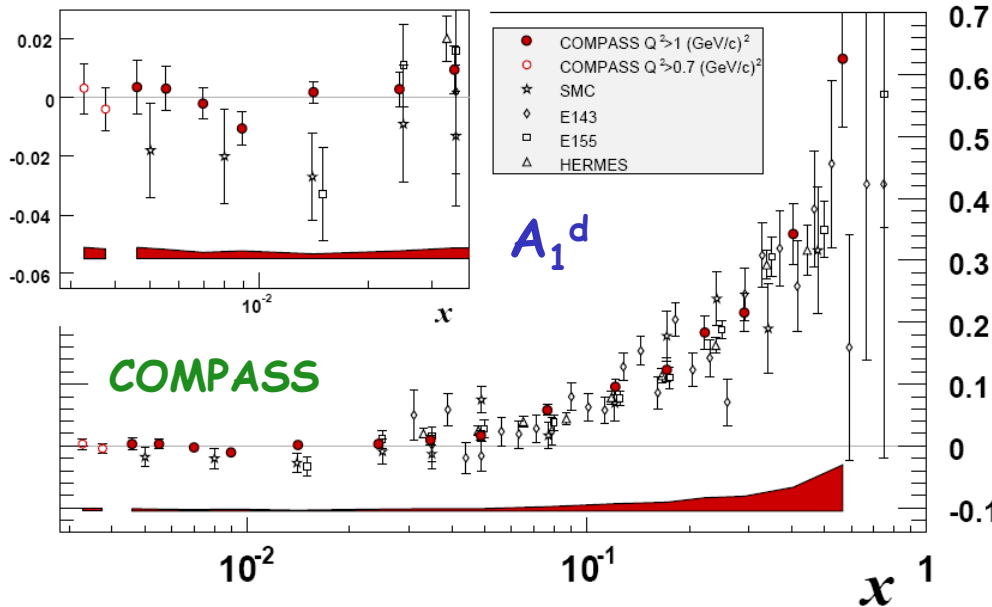
- └─ important test of QCD:
- understanding of hadron structure
 - hard scattering QCD dynamics
 - factorization & universality

■ standard tool: polarized DIS

more than 25 years of beautiful data
on polarized DIS - still progress!

in 2006/07:

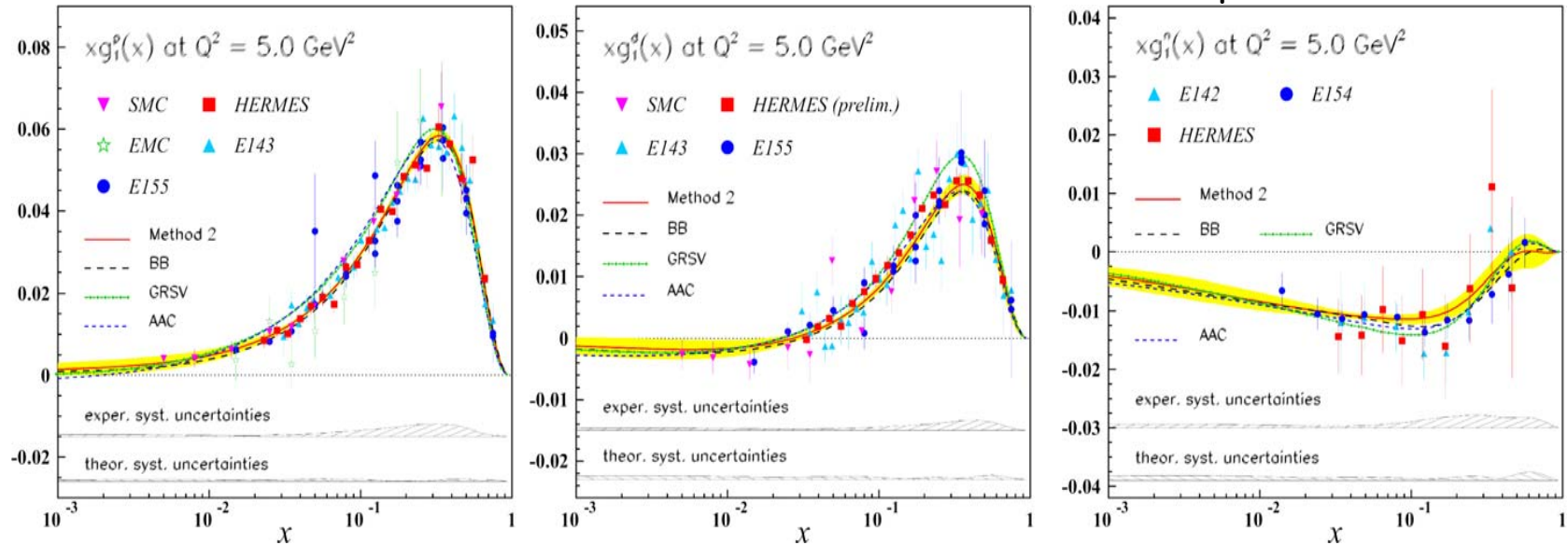
- final DIS results from HERMES
- deuteron results from COMPASS



■ NLO QCD analysis of polarized DIS

find: very good agreement with data at NLO level

example: Blümlein & Böttcher



acronyms:

AAC: Asymmetry Analysis Collaboration
(Hirai, Kumano, Saito)

BB: Blümlein & Böttcher

GRSV: Glück, Reya, MS, Vogelsang

salient features:

- quark contr. to $S_z^p = 1/2$: $\Delta\Sigma \simeq 0.2 \div 0.3$
- gluon largely unconstrained due to limited (x, Q^2) coverage \rightarrow eRHIC!

while waiting for a first polarized ep-collider

Δg can be further constrained

in pp-collisions at RHIC...

■ milestone of RHIC spin program

(as far as possible) a model independent determination of

Collins, Soper; Manohar

$$\Delta g(x, \mu) = \frac{1}{4\pi x P^+} \int dy^- e^{iy^- x P^+} \langle P, S | F_a^{+j}(0, y^-, \vec{0}) \mathcal{F} \tilde{F}_{+j}(0) | P, S \rangle \Big|_\mu$$

gauge link

features:

- interpretation as diff. of number operators only in $A^+=0$ gauge

$$\left| \begin{array}{c} P, + \\ \Rightarrow \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{c} xP^+ \\ \text{gluon lines} \end{array} \right) \right\} X \right|^2 - \left| \begin{array}{c} P, + \\ \Rightarrow \end{array} \left(\begin{array}{c} xP^- \\ \text{gluon lines} \end{array} \right) \right\} X \right|^2$$

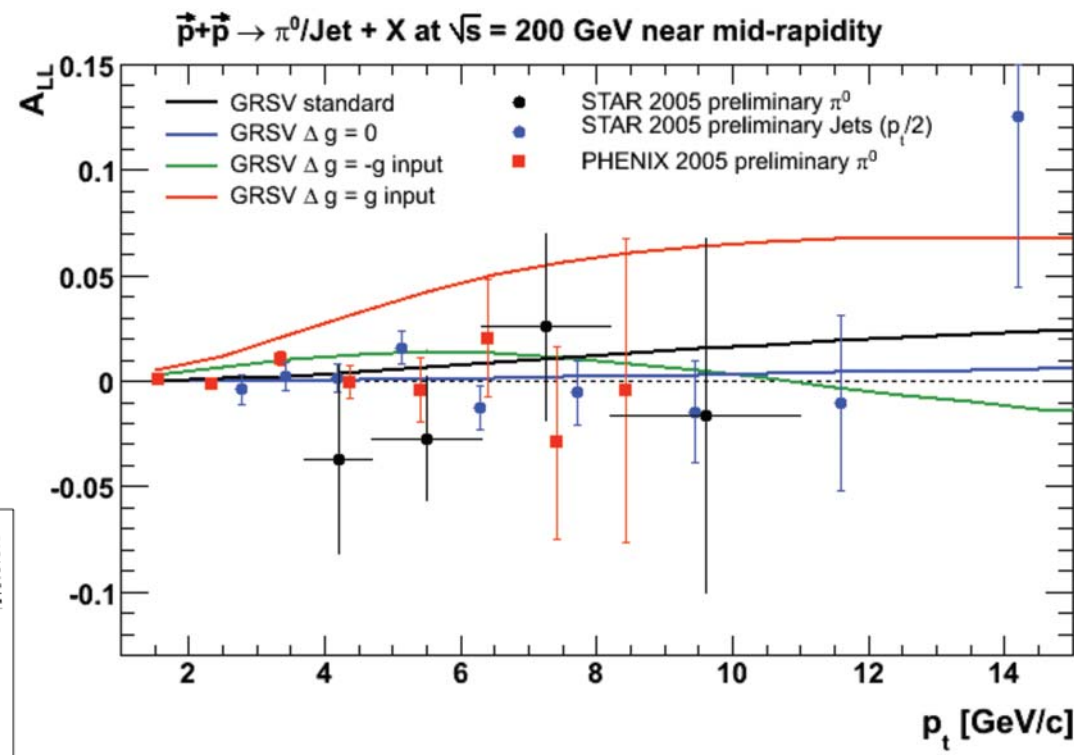
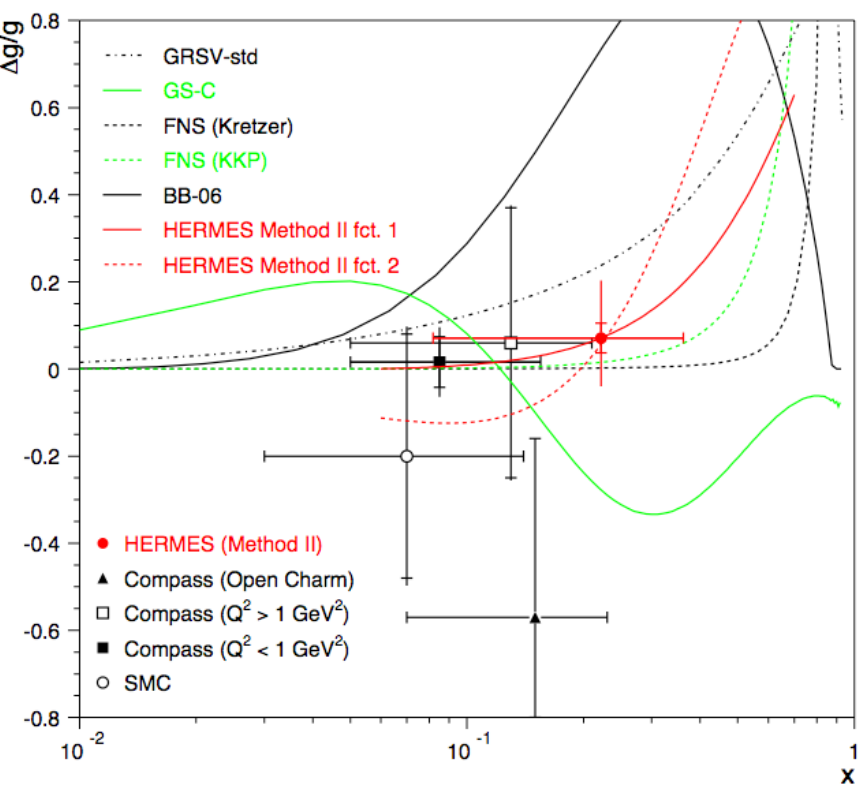
- all $n \geq 2$ moments, $\int x^{n-1} \dots dx$, give local operators but there is no gauge-invariant local gluonic operator for $n=1$

- in $A^+=0$ gauge the 1st moment also collapses into a local operator and has the interpretation as gluon contribution to the spin “sum rule”

■ data probing Δg are rolling in now ...

pp: PHENIX, STAR

lp: HERMES, COMPASS, SMC

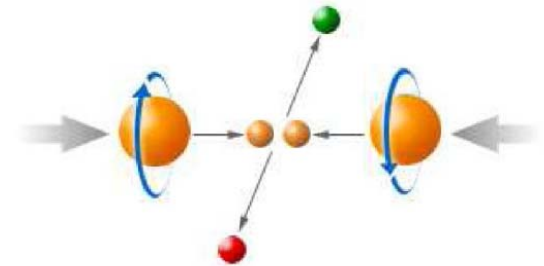


- What do they imply?
- How to analyze them properly?
- Potential problems & limitations?

■ hunting down the elusive Δg

outline:

- theoretical framework
- extracting Δg : results & complications



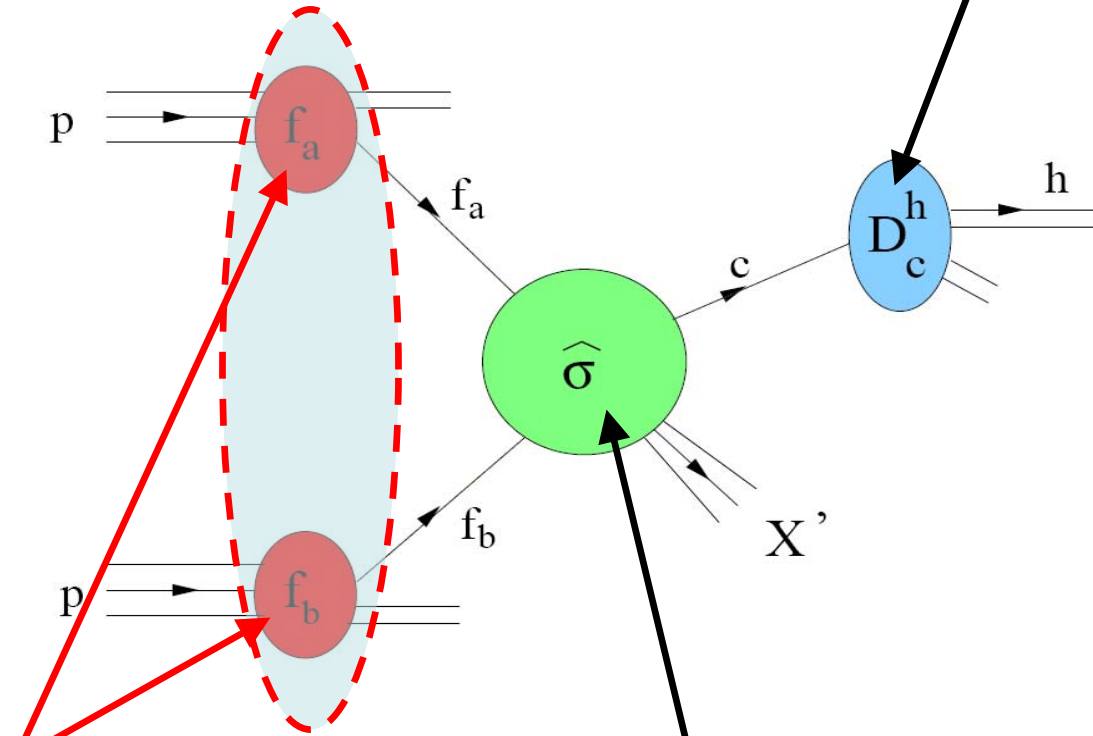
■ the general strategy is simple ...



e.g. $pp \rightarrow \pi X$:

measure!

$$d(\Delta)\sigma \simeq$$



from global analysis

learn about
hadronic/spin structure

compute as a power
series in α_s in pQCD

... but it is an intricate problem:

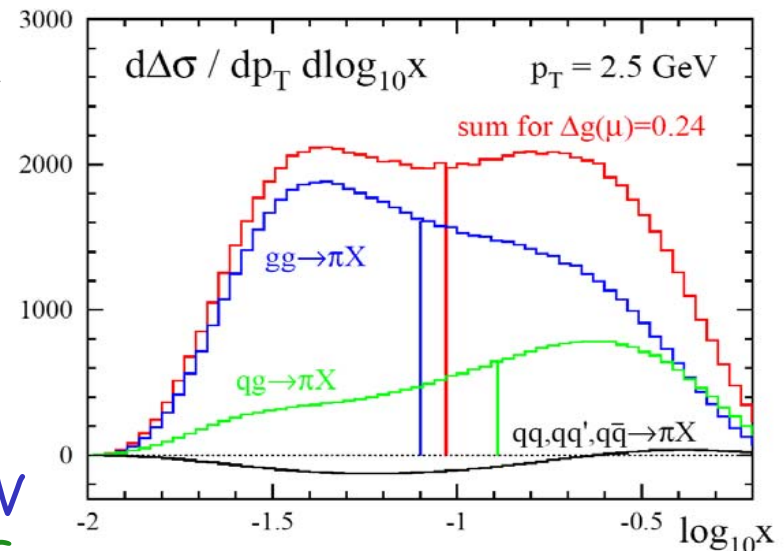
recall

$$\frac{d\sigma^{pp \rightarrow \pi X}}{dp_T d\eta} = \sum_{abc} \int dx_a dx_b dz_c f_a(x_a, \mu_f) f_b(x_b, \mu_f) D_c^\pi(z_c, \mu'_f) \times \frac{d\hat{\sigma}^{ab \rightarrow cX'}}{dp_T d\eta}(x_a P_a, x_b P_b, P^\pi / z_c, \mu_f, \mu'_f, \mu_r) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\lambda}{p_T}\right)^n$$

■ information on long-distance physics inside **complicated convolutions** & summed over **many partonic subprocesses**

- no 1:1 correspondence between data and parton densities or frag. fcts.
- information on momentum fractions “smeared” over significant range

ex.: $pp \rightarrow \pi X$ at $p_T = 2.5 \text{ GeV}$
MS



■ theoretical calculations depend on unphysical scales

- a *measurable* cross section $d(\Delta)\sigma$ has to be *independent* of μ_r and μ_f

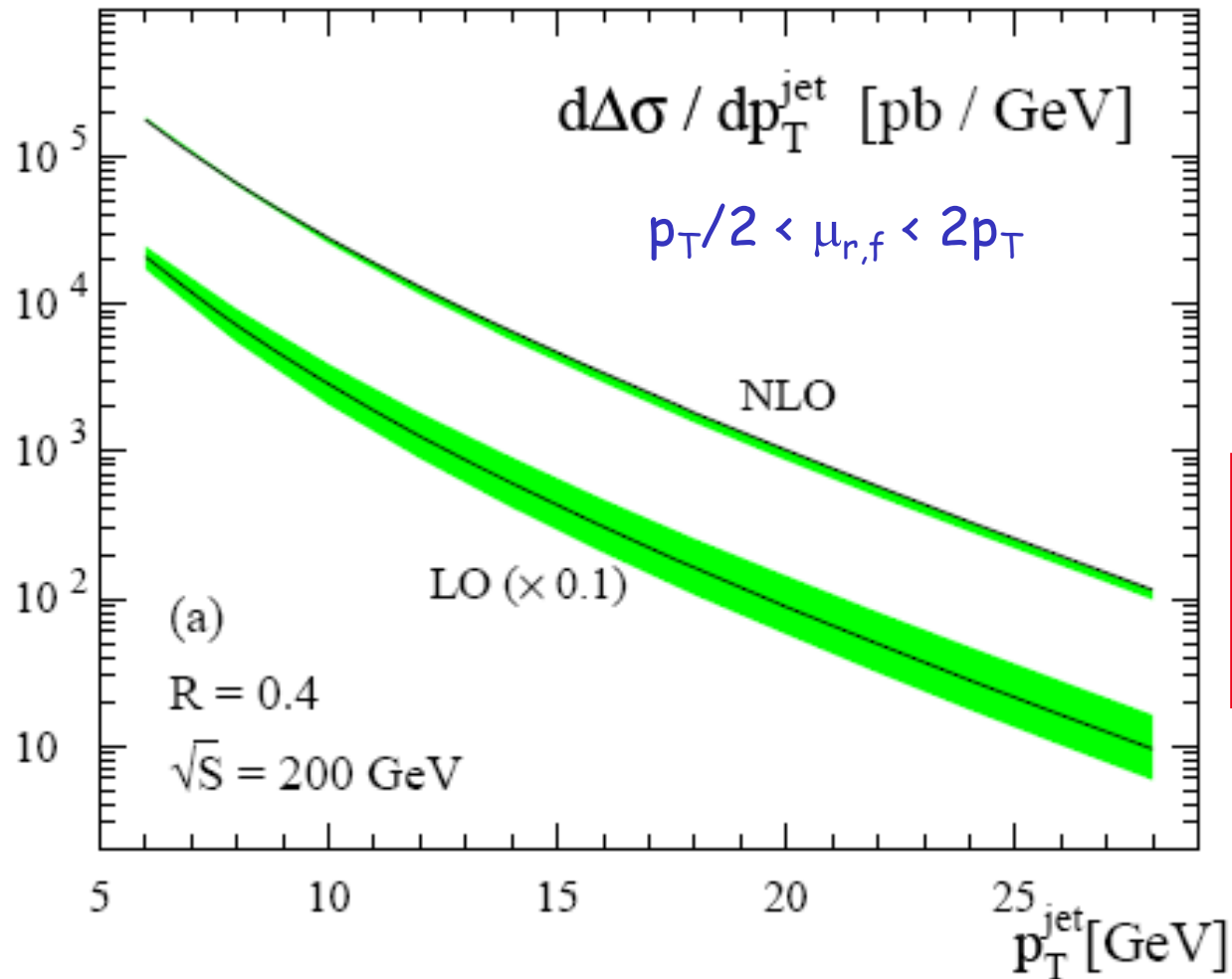
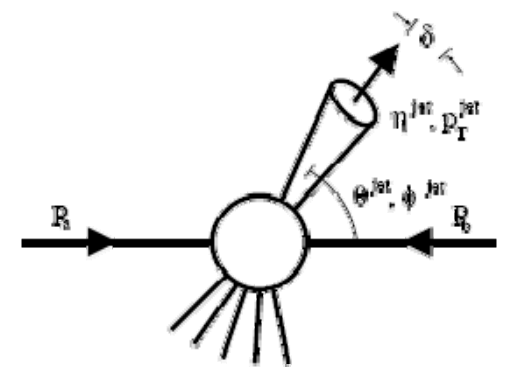
$$\frac{d(\Delta)\sigma}{d\ln \mu_{r,f}} = 0 \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{leads to renormalization group eqs. like, e.g., DGLAP evolution}$$

- if we truncate the series after the first N terms, there will be a *residual scale dependence* of order (N+1) \rightarrow **theory error**
- there is no such thing like "the right scale" (not even $\mu=Q$ in DIS)

the harder we work, the less the final result
should depend on these artificial scales
a powerful gauge of the reliability of a pQCD calculation

example: single-jet production at RHIC

taken from B. Jäger, MS, W. Vogelsang



going beyond the LO
is a must for *any*
quantitative study

going beyond the LO is in every aspect
a major enterprise

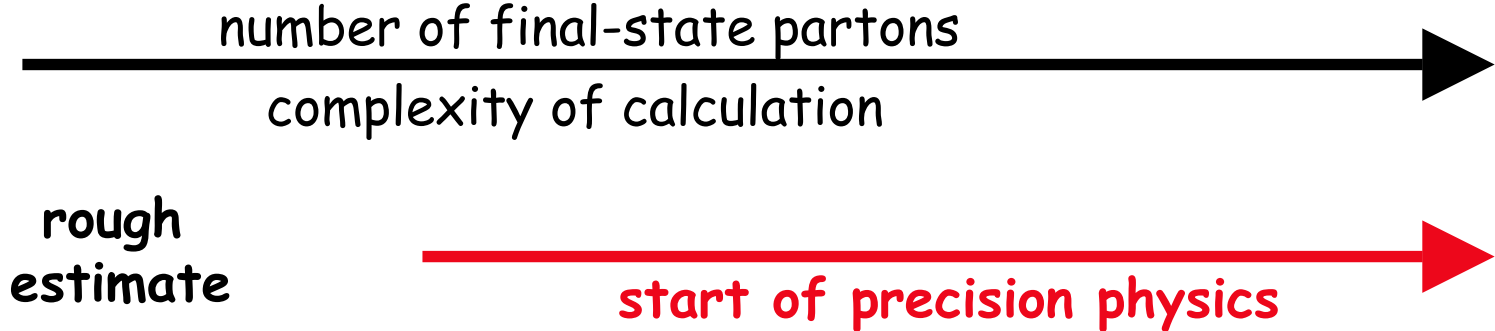
$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & \text{LO} & & \text{NLO} & & \text{NNLO} & & \\ d\hat{\sigma} = & d\hat{\sigma}^{(0)} & + & \alpha_s d\hat{\sigma}^{(1)} & + & \alpha_s^2 d\hat{\sigma}^{(2)} & + & \dots \end{array}$$

number of final-state partons

complexity of calculation

rough estimate

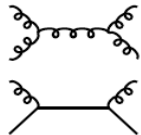
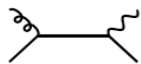
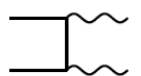
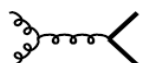
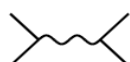
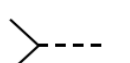
start of precision physics



... pushes math. tools & computer algebra to their limits

tremendous progress on NLO calculations for RHIC-spin

available:

	Reaction	Dom. partonic process	probes	LO Feynman diagram	
hadrons	$\vec{p}\vec{p} \rightarrow \pi + X$ [61, 62]	$\vec{g}\vec{g} \rightarrow gg$ $\vec{q}\vec{q} \rightarrow qq$	Δg		Jäger, Schäfer, MS, Vogelsang; de Florian
jets	$\vec{p}\vec{p} \rightarrow \text{jet(s)} + X$ [71, 72]	$\vec{g}\vec{g} \rightarrow gg$ $\vec{q}\vec{q} \rightarrow qq$	Δg	(as above)	Jäger, MS, Vogelsang; Signer et al.
photons	$\vec{p}\vec{p} \rightarrow \gamma + X$ $\vec{p}\vec{p} \rightarrow \gamma + \text{jet} + X$ $\vec{p}\vec{p} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma + X$ [67, 73, 74, 75, 76]	$\vec{q}\vec{q} \rightarrow \gamma q$ $\vec{q}\vec{q} \rightarrow \gamma q$ $\vec{q}\vec{q} \rightarrow \gamma\gamma$	Δg Δg $\Delta q, \Delta \bar{q}$	 	Gordon, Vogelsang; Contogouris et al.; Gordon, Coriano
heavy flavors	$\vec{p}\vec{p} \rightarrow DX, BX$ [77]	$\vec{g}\vec{g} \rightarrow c\bar{c}, b\bar{b}$	Δg		Bojak, MS
Drell Yan	$\vec{p}\vec{p} \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^- X$ (Drell-Yan) [78, 79, 80]	$\vec{q}\vec{q} \rightarrow \gamma^* \rightarrow \mu^+\mu^-$	$\Delta q, \Delta \bar{q}$		Weber; Gehrmann; Kamal; Smith et al.
	$\vec{p}\vec{p} \rightarrow (Z^0, W^\pm)X$ $p\vec{p} \rightarrow (Z^0, W^\pm)X$ [78]	$\vec{q}\vec{q} \rightarrow Z^0, \vec{q}'\vec{q} \rightarrow W^\pm$ $\vec{q}'\vec{q} \rightarrow W^\pm, q'\vec{q} \rightarrow W^\pm$	$\Delta q, \Delta \bar{q}$		

work in progress: particle-correlations for RHIC
(hadron-hadron, hadron-photon, heavy-flavor)



Jäger, Owens, MS,
Vogelsang; Riedl, MS

strength of RHIC: unpolarized “benchmarks”

pQCD challenged by experiment

find (jets, pions, photons, ...)

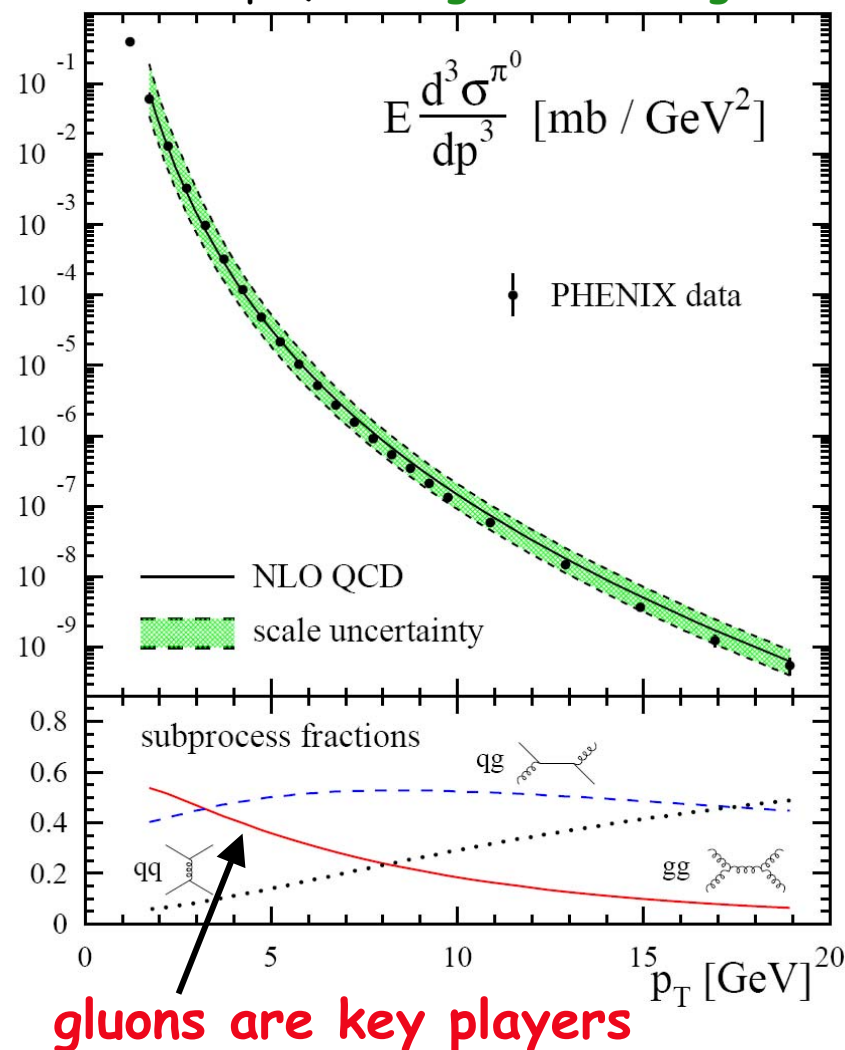
perfect agreement over many
orders of magnitude

foundation/baseline for:

- polarized pp collisions at RHIC
- interpretation of heavy-ion results

much less clear at fixed-target exp.

latest from RHIC ([arXiv:0704.3599](https://arxiv.org/abs/0704.3599))
vs. NLO pQCD Jäger, MS, Vogelsang



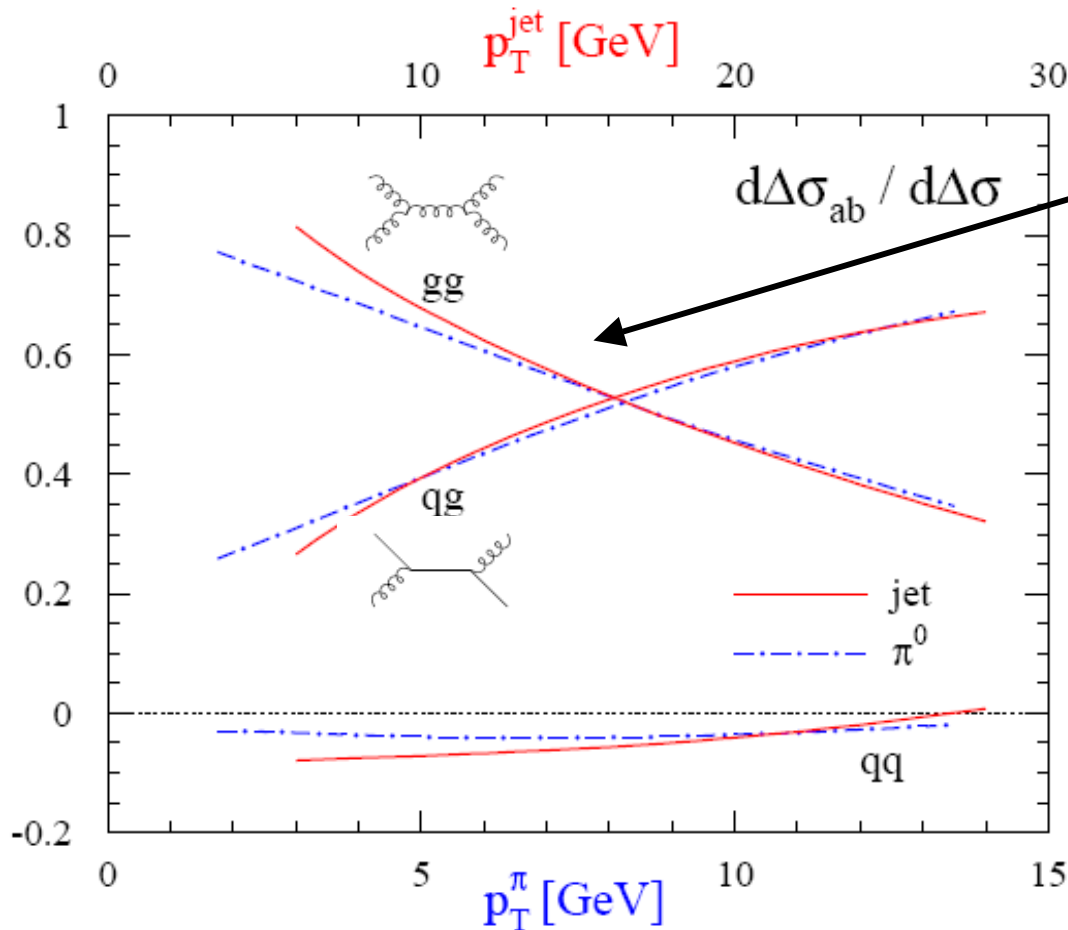
what do RHIC data already tell us?

current probes at RHIC: single-inclusive hadrons & jets

PHENIX, STAR

at moderate p_T and mid-rapidity η

relevance of different subprocesses:

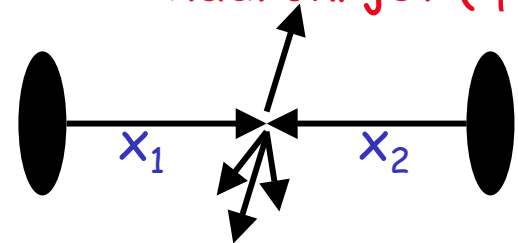


✓ gluon-induced processes dominant

→ **sensitivity to Δg**

but at central rapidities

hadron/jet ($\eta \simeq 0$)



→ probe $\Delta g(x_1) \Delta g(x_2 \simeq x_1)$

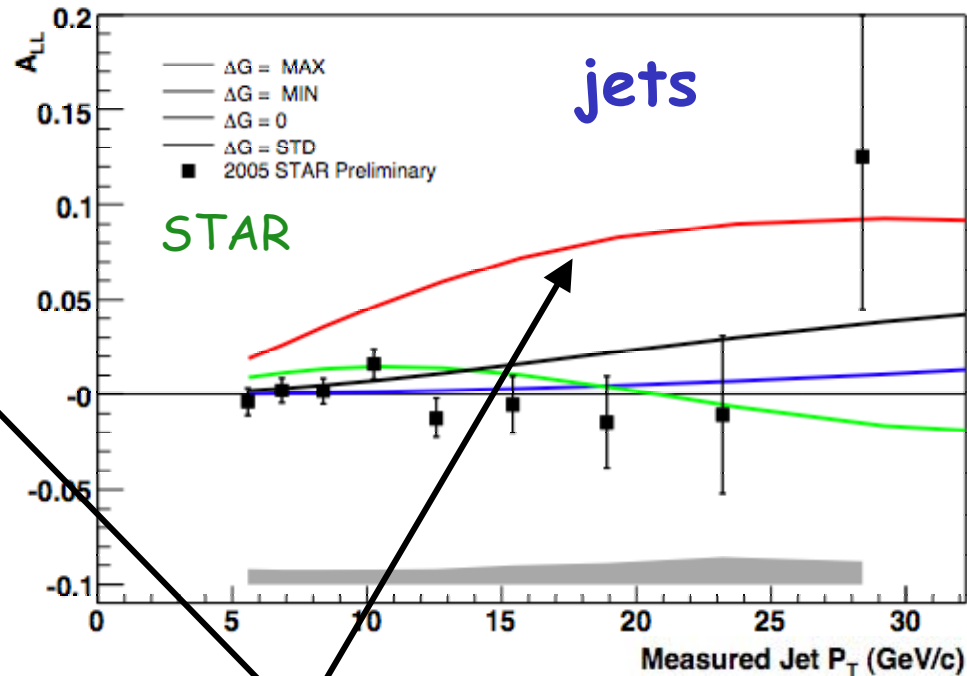
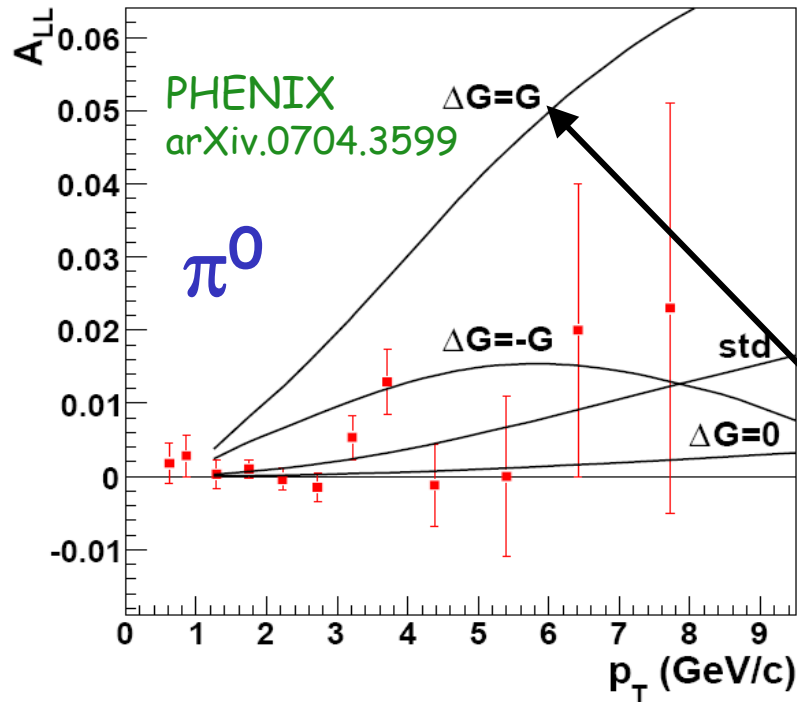
“sign deadlock”

(taken from Jäger, MS, Vogelsang)

indeed ...



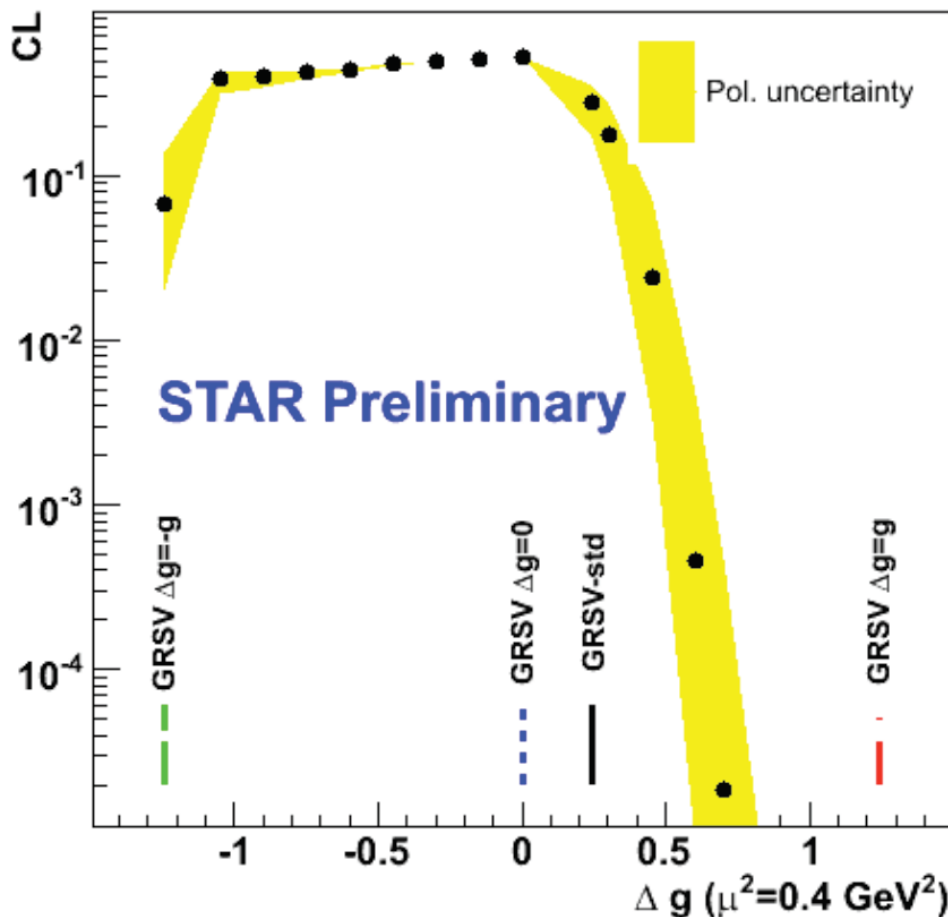
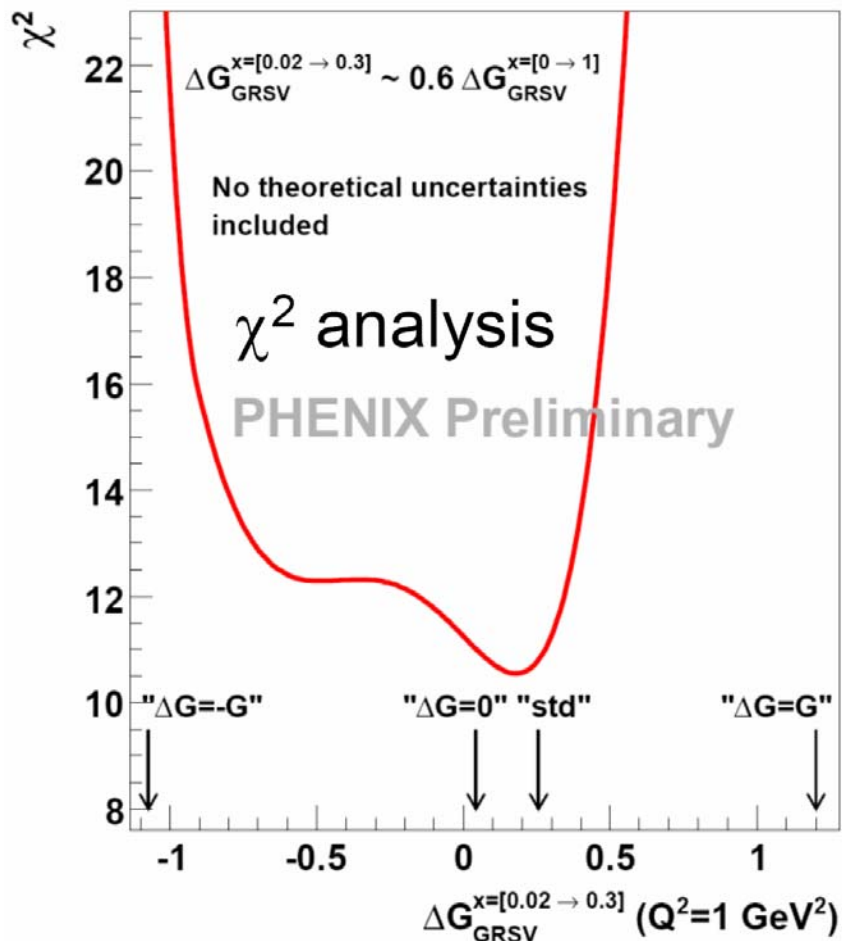
single-incl. A_{LL} vs. NLO calc. for
very diff. gluon polarizations Δg



■ major result: very large ($\gtrsim 2$ units of \hbar) "anomaly-inspired" Δg dead

but beyond that ??

experiments now do their own theory analysis ...



Q: how robust are these results?

[heavily biased by GRSV framework? ; x-range? ; 1st moment? ; ...]

■ data \leftrightarrow x-range probed

can we figure out which $\langle x \rangle$ is probed?

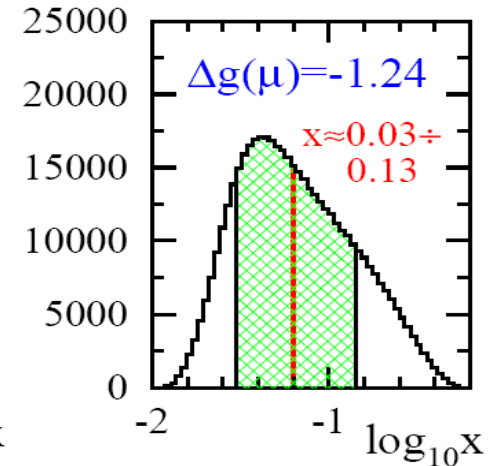
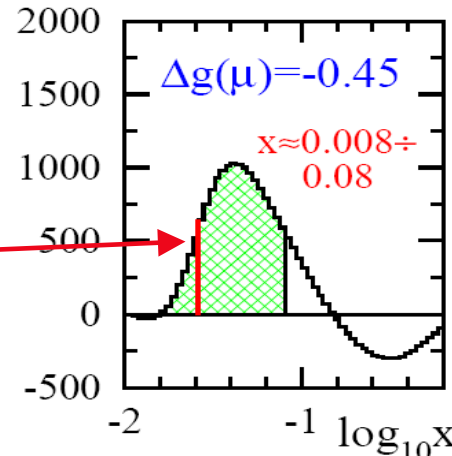
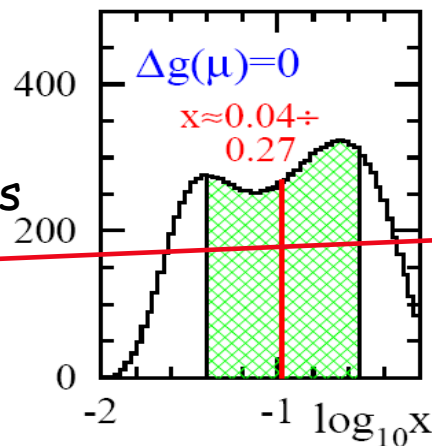
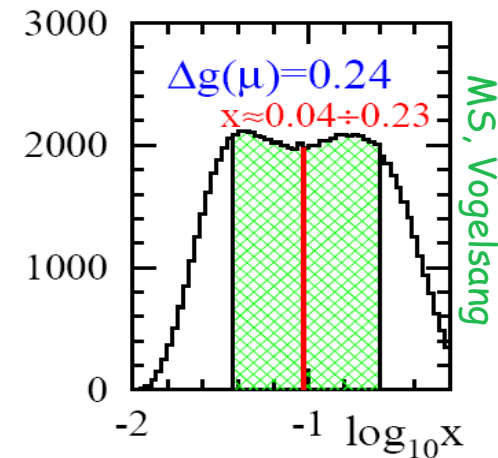
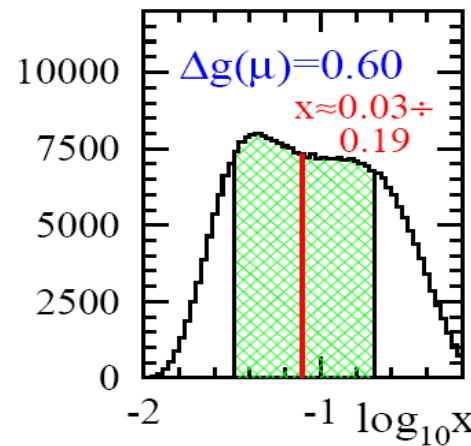
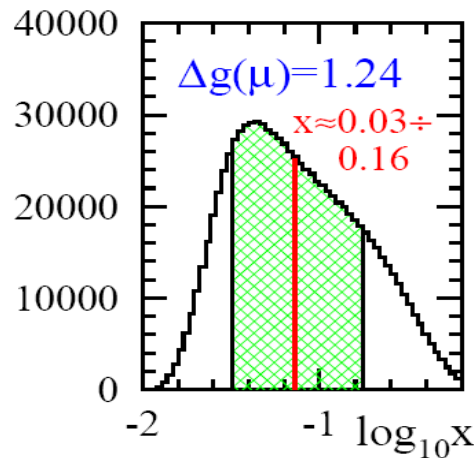
difficult!

example:

pp \rightarrow πX

$d\Delta\sigma / dp_T d\log_{10}x$

$p_T = 2.5$ GeV



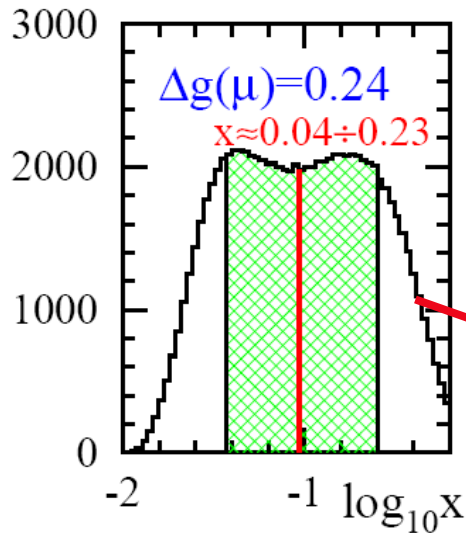
MS, Vogelsang

■ x-range spreads out significantly

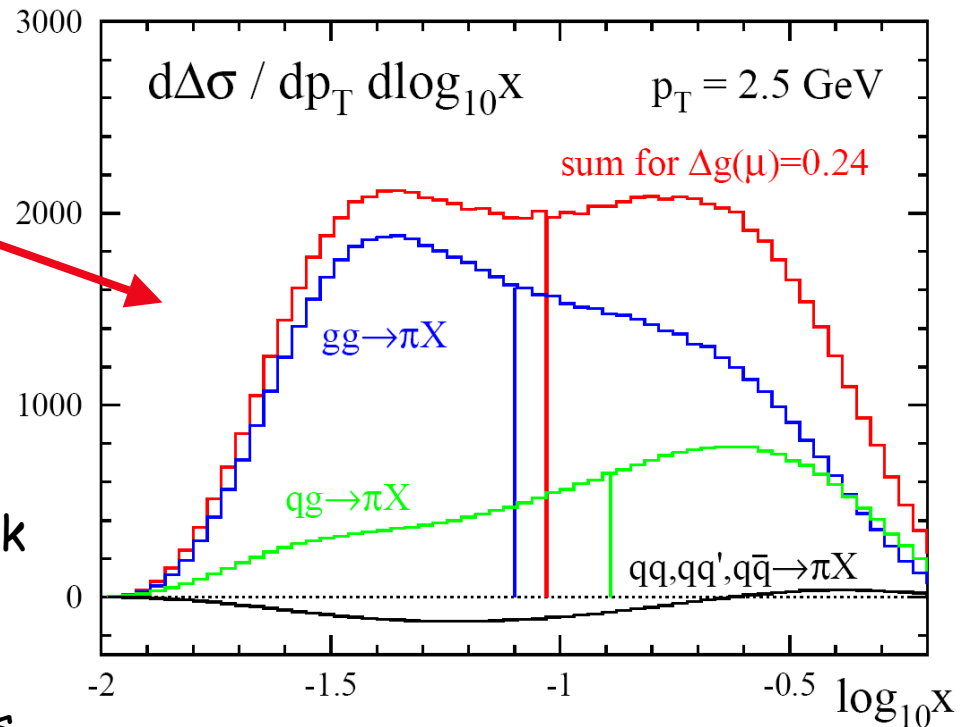
■ depends on unknown Δg

■ complication: possible oscillations obscure $\langle x \rangle$

a closer look for GRSV "standard"



diff. subprocesses populate different x-ranges



gg vs. **qg** interplay explains all:

- large pos. $\Delta g \rightarrow$ pronounced **gg** peak
- small pos. $\Delta g \rightarrow$ double peak
- not too large neg. $\Delta g \rightarrow$ oscillations

estimates of $x \pm dx$ very difficult w/o knowing Δg

→ important disclaimer

RHIC data so far are sensitive to a rather limited x-range $0.04 \lesssim x \lesssim 0.2$

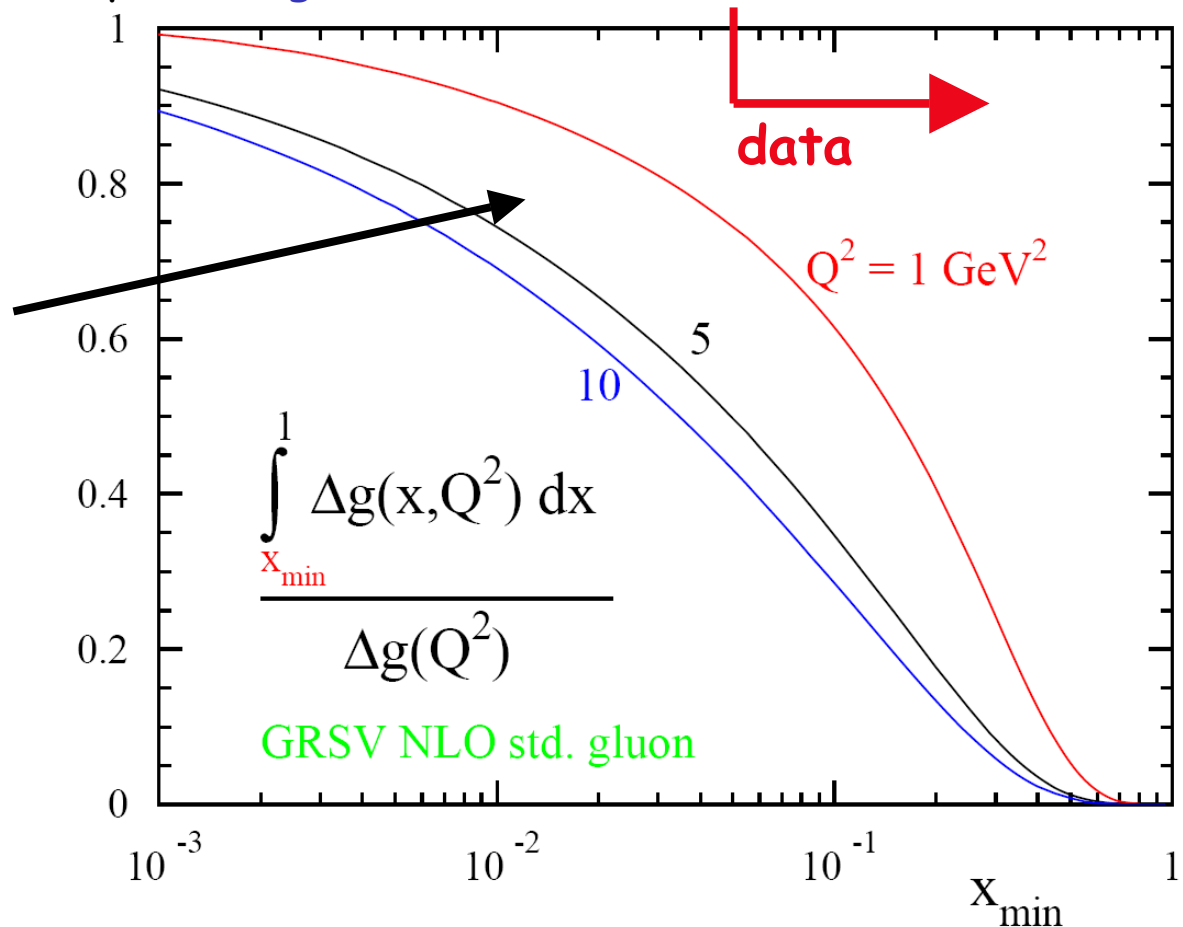
→ full moment $\int_0^1 dx \Delta g(x, \mu)$ still a long shot

(i.e., depends on *assumed* shape for Δg)

small values of x can be crucial for 1st moment !!



need a much more precise "x-mapping"



[also *Gehrmann-Stirling* gluons pick up a large small-x contribution!!]

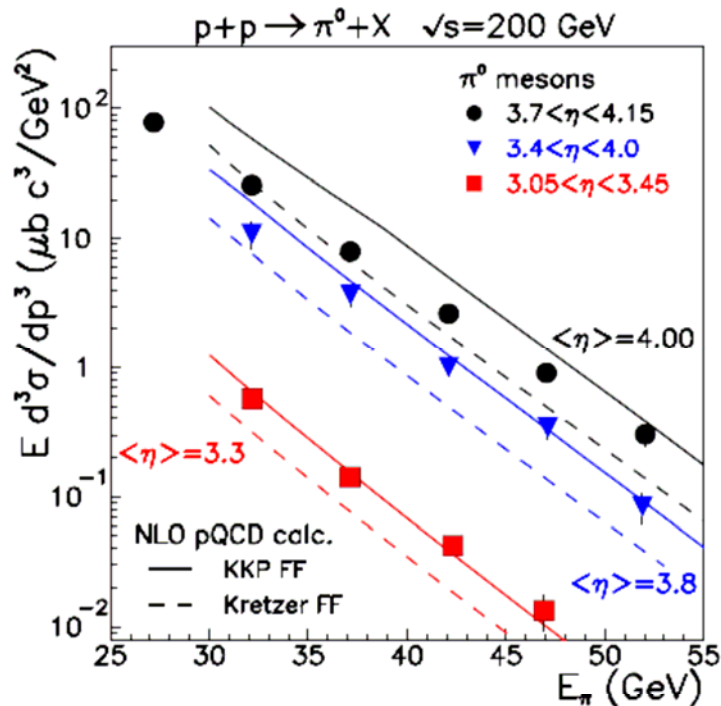
other issues to worry about ...

■ how do quarks & gluons hadronize?

key phenomenological input for all calculations of meson/baryon production

plenty of experimental information but we know much less about hadronization than about hadron structure - *why?*

many short-comings of available models revealed by RHIC data, e.g.:



- general trend: "Kretzer" below data (STAR, PHENIX, BRAHMS)
- no reliable charge/flavor separation (STAR, BRAHMS: π^+ vs. π^- yields, ...)

we must do better!

NLO calc.: Jäger, Schäfer, MS, Vogelsang

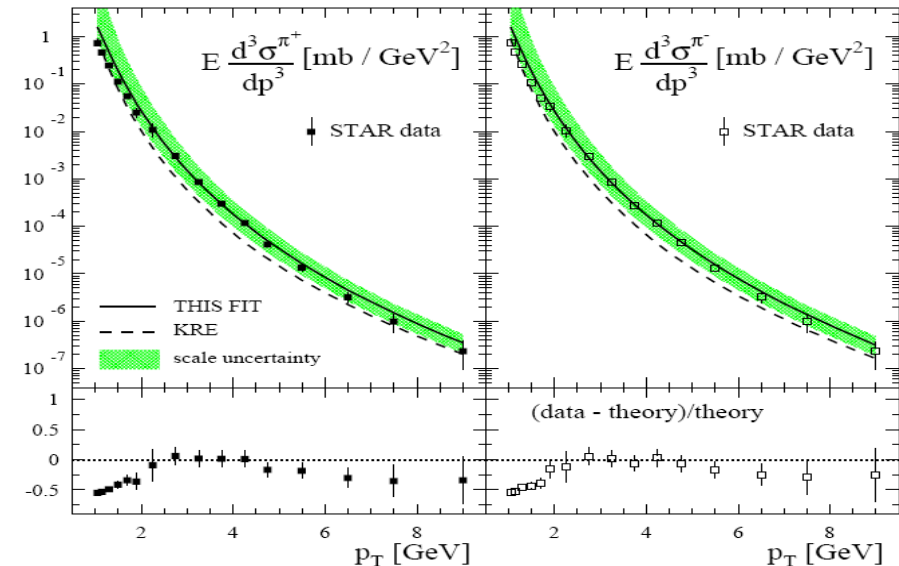
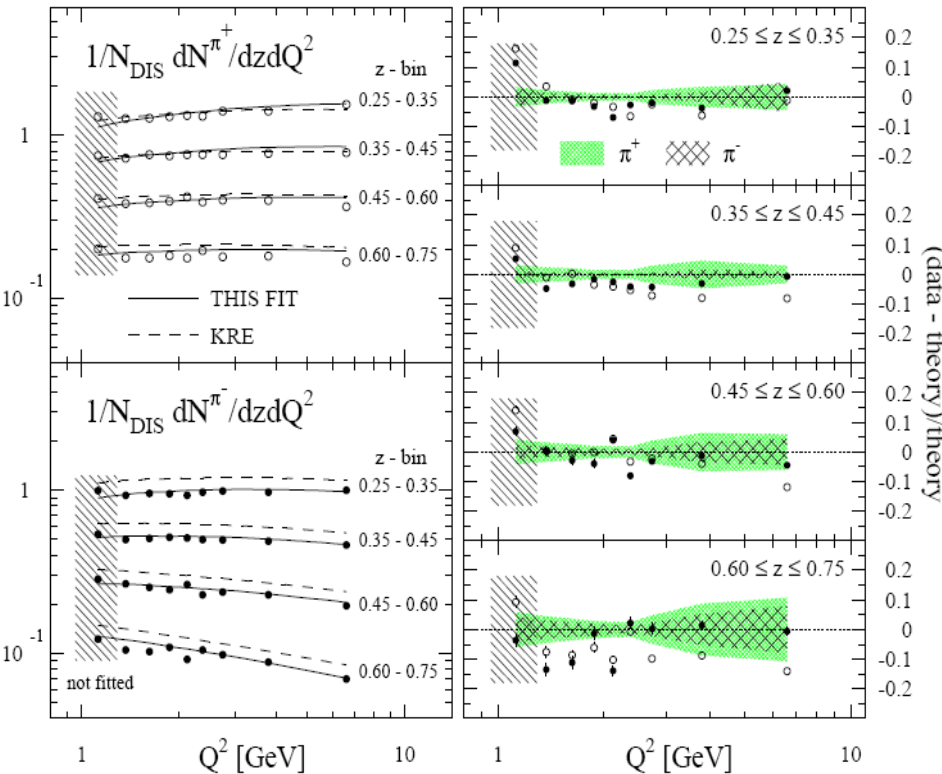
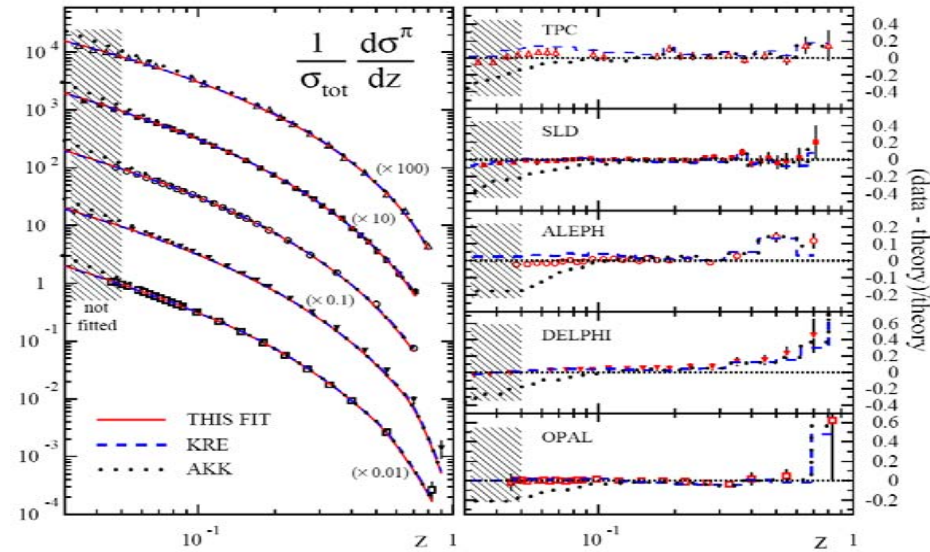
1st global analysis of e^+e^- and ep , pp data

de Florian, Sassot, MS: hep-ph/0703242 (PRD)

→ more on Wednesday

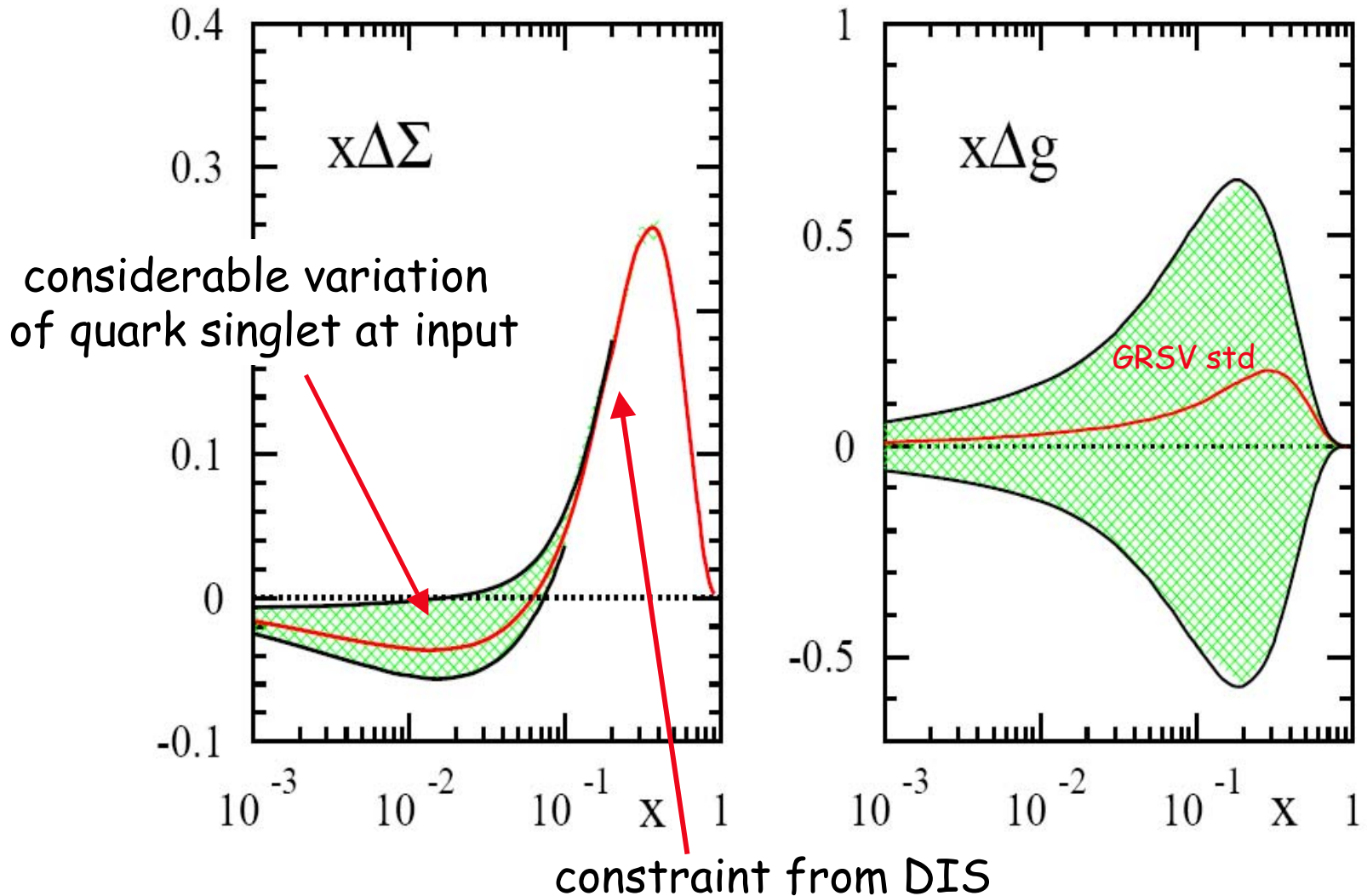
main features:

- handle on gluon fragmentation
- flavor separation
- uncertainties via Lagrange multipl.
- describes all current data



■ can one assume that $\Delta\Sigma$ is known?

NO, it is misleading to extract *only* Δg w/o refitting the quarks:



■ can I use MCs to extract Δg ?

Δg extraction through signal/background separation based on MC

e.g., $lp \rightarrow HX$
$$A_{LL} = \frac{\sum \Delta f \otimes d\Delta\hat{\sigma} \otimes D_c}{\sum f \otimes d\hat{\sigma} \otimes D_c} \rightarrow \frac{\sigma_{\gamma g}}{\sigma_{tot}} \frac{\Delta g}{g} \frac{\Delta\hat{\sigma}_{\gamma g}}{\hat{\sigma}_{\gamma g}} + A_{LL}^{backgr.}$$

"fractions" from MC

MC crucial to model experiment but cannot replace a full global analysis:

- requires kind of "mean-value" theorem as $\frac{\Delta g \otimes d\Delta\hat{\sigma} \otimes D_c}{g \otimes d\hat{\sigma} \otimes D_c} \neq \frac{\sigma_{\gamma g}}{\sigma_{tot}} \frac{\Delta g}{g} \frac{\Delta\hat{\sigma}_{\gamma g}}{\hat{\sigma}_{\gamma g}}$
(also note that $\langle \hat{A}_{\gamma g}(x) \rangle \neq \hat{A}_{\gamma g}(\langle x \rangle)$)
- MC hadronization not compatible with collinear pQCD which *defines* pdfs
- MC neither LO nor NLO (parton showers, ...)

in general, expect: $\Delta g(\text{MC}) \neq \Delta g(\text{NLO pQCD analysis})$

≈ 20 years of experience in analyzing unpolarized data:

DFLM, ... , GRV, MT, MRS, ... , MSTW, CTEQ, ...



learning about nucleon structure requires a global QCD analysis

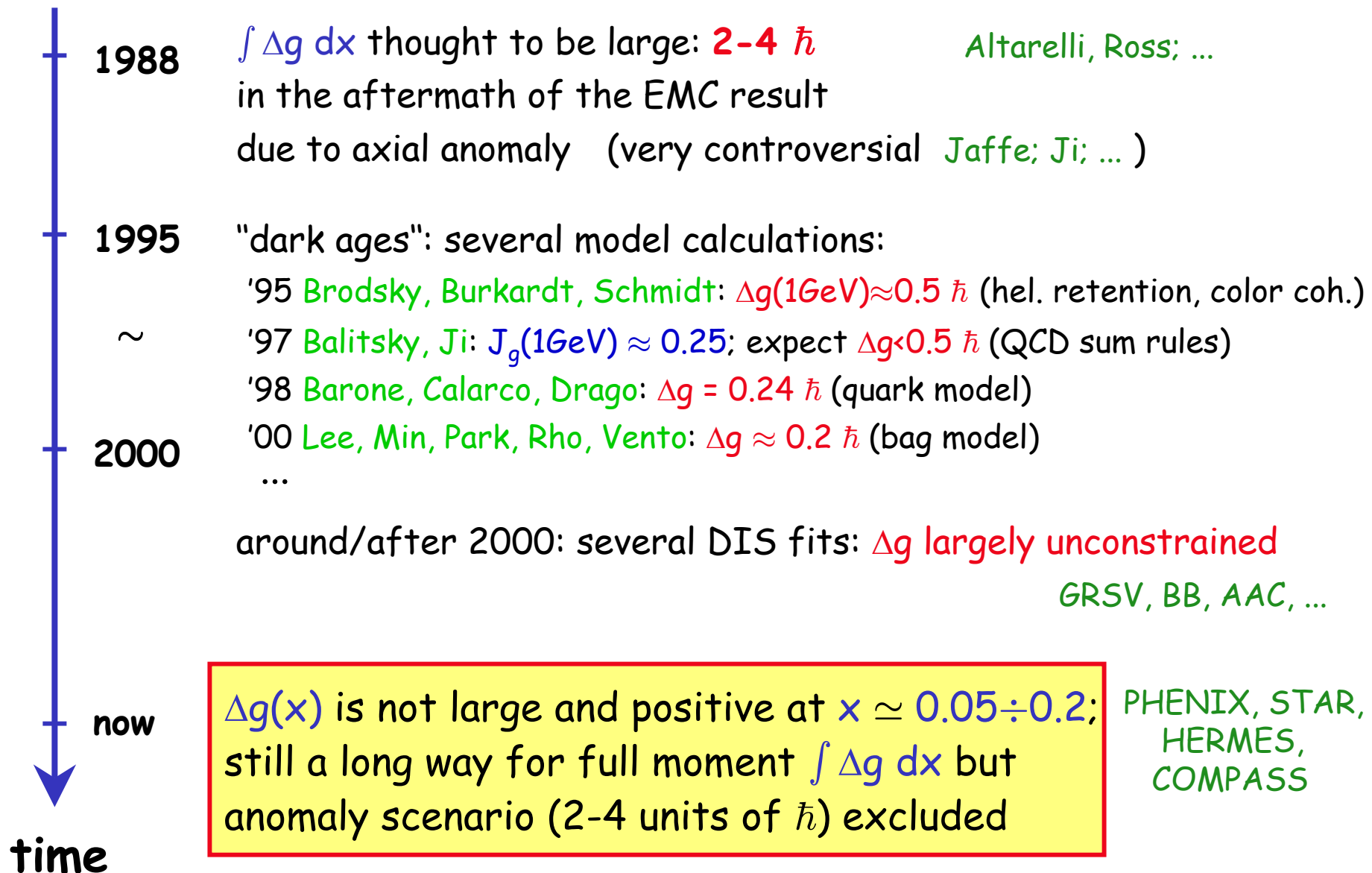
**even more true for the spin structure
due to lack of “HERA-like” DIS data**

but current data are not yet sufficient, e.g.:

- quark & anti-quark flavor separation \rightarrow W-physics @ 500 GeV
- gluon polarization (sign, small x , ...)

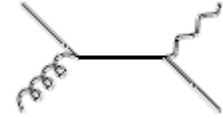
some future avenues for Δg at RHIC

■ Δg : where do we stand now?



RHIC/RHIC-II 500 GeV collisions (smaller x), more luminosity (rare probes)

prompt photons: rare, but clear probe of **sign** through



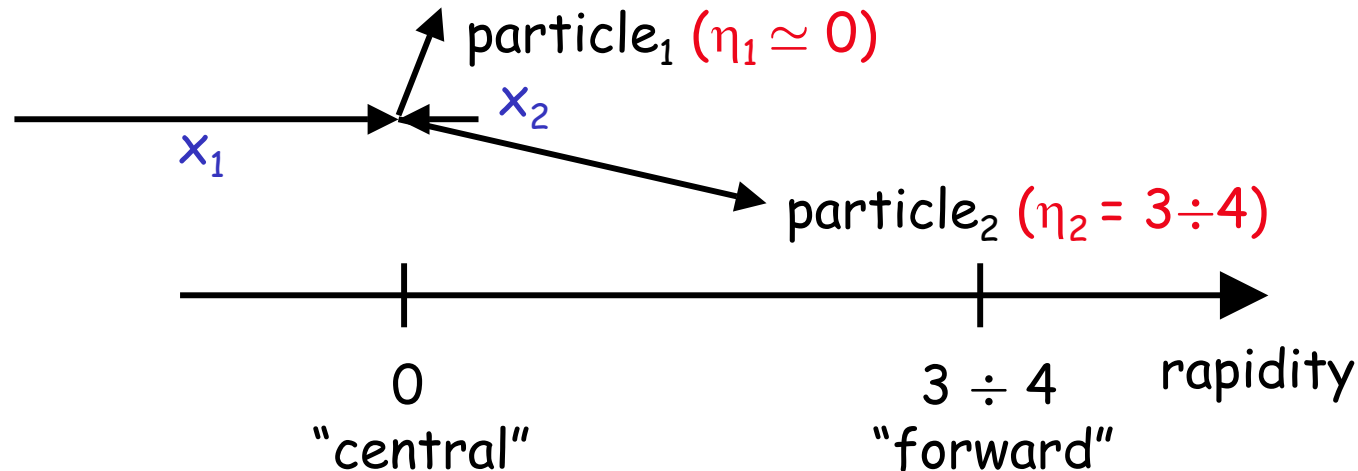
heavy flavors: mass allows (?) pQCD at small $p_T \rightarrow$ probes **smaller x**

particle correlations: better control of kinematics = **x -range and sign**

idea:

forward-central
correlations

$$x_1 \gg x_2$$



strongly asym. kinematics: $x_1 \gg x_2$

\rightarrow qg-scattering $q(x_1) g(x_2)$ important

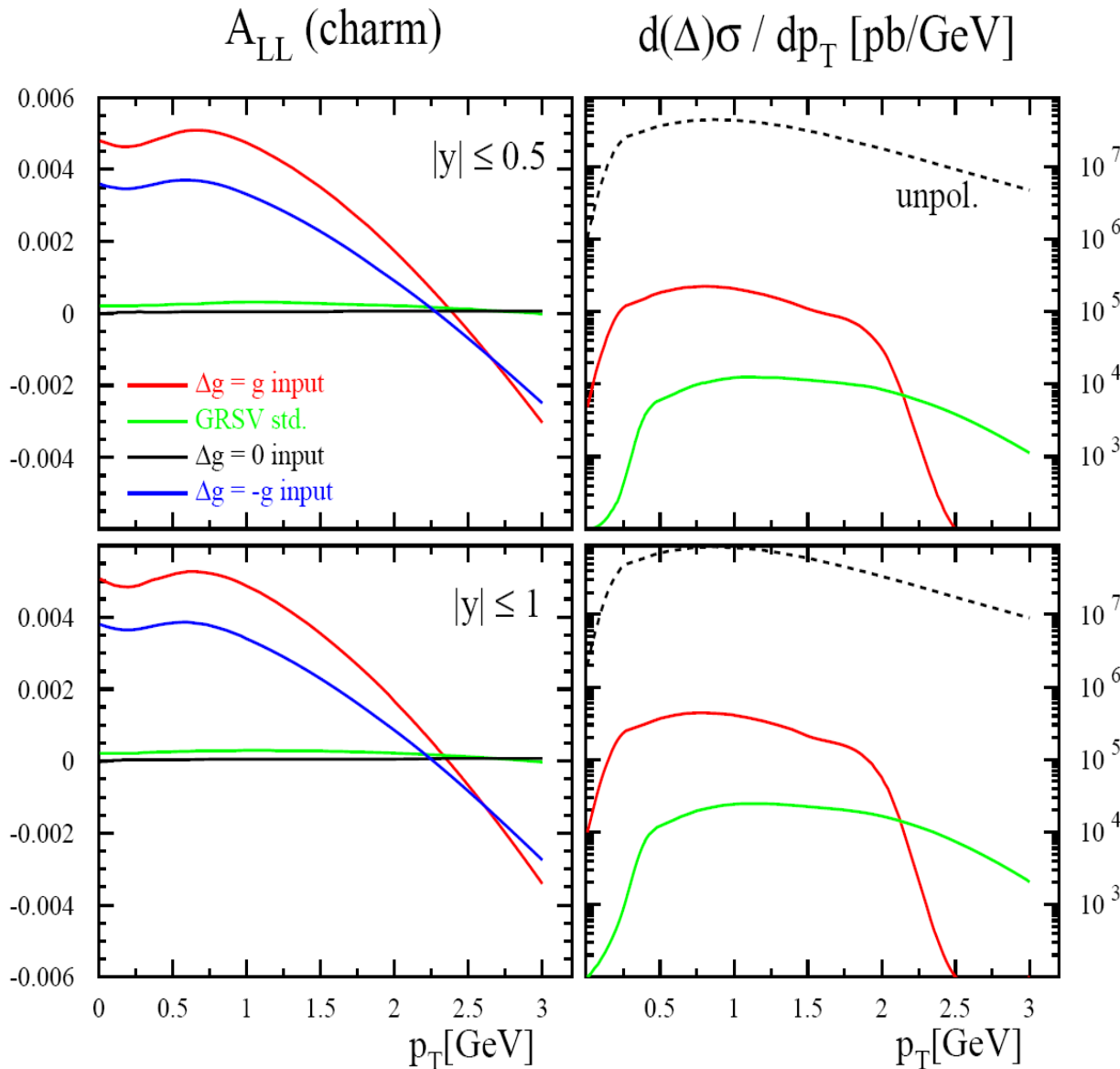
NLO 2-hadrons just completed &
pheno. studies under way:

Jäger, Owens, MS, Vogelsang 31

■ heavy flavors (prospects for near future)

"quick & dirty study"

J. Riedl, MS



gg scattering dominant
→ sign of Δg is an issue

A_{LL} very small

charm detection ($c \rightarrow \mu, \dots$)
not yet included

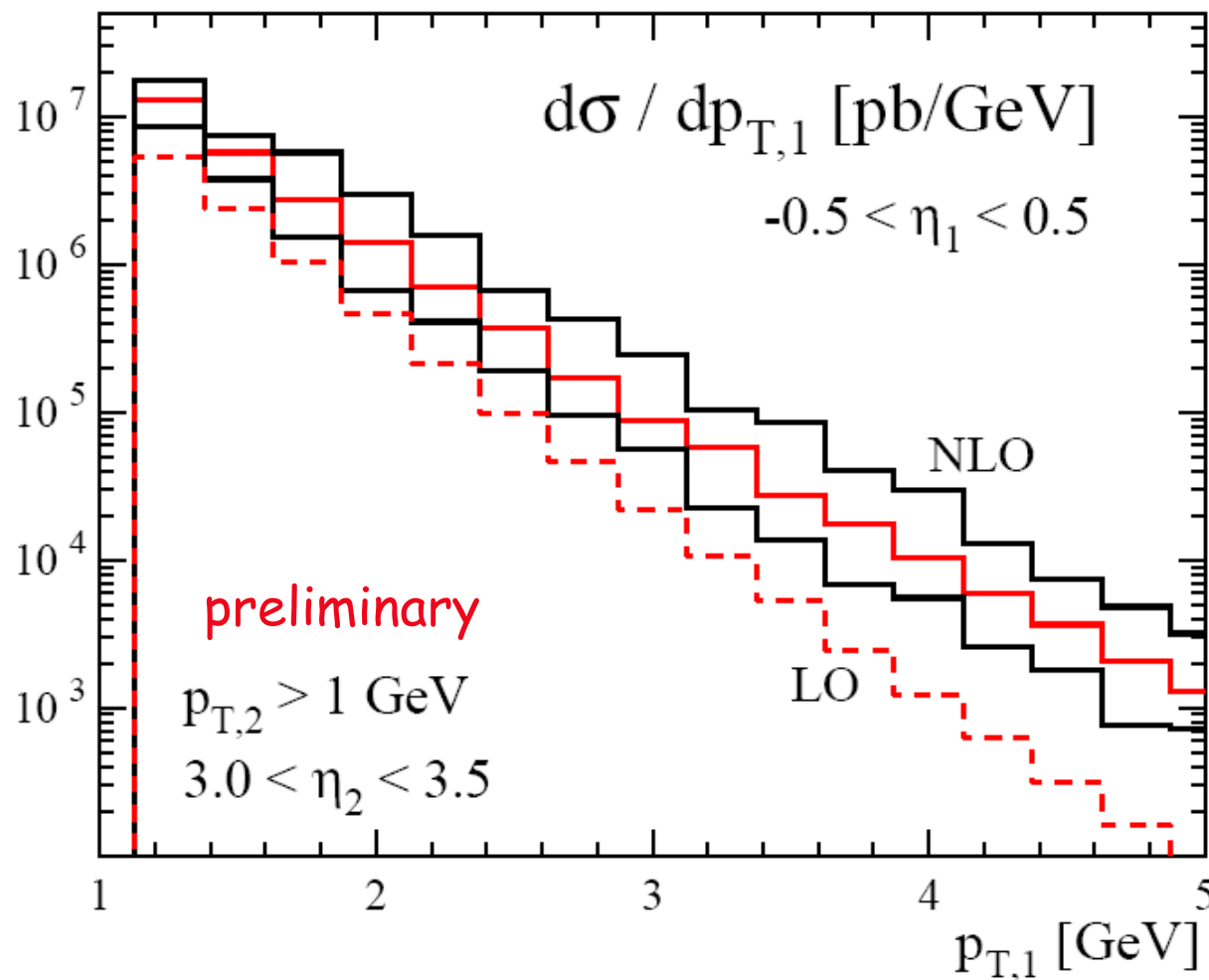
pQCD at work?

stay tuned for

- heavy quark correlations
- charge asymmetry

■ unpolarized “benchmark” for 2-hadrons

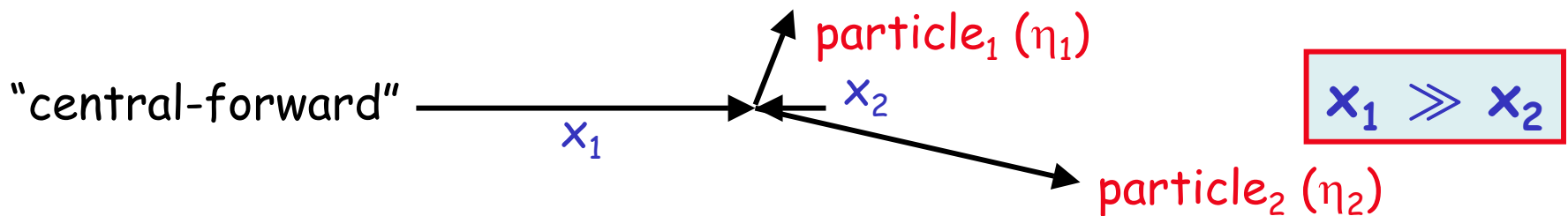
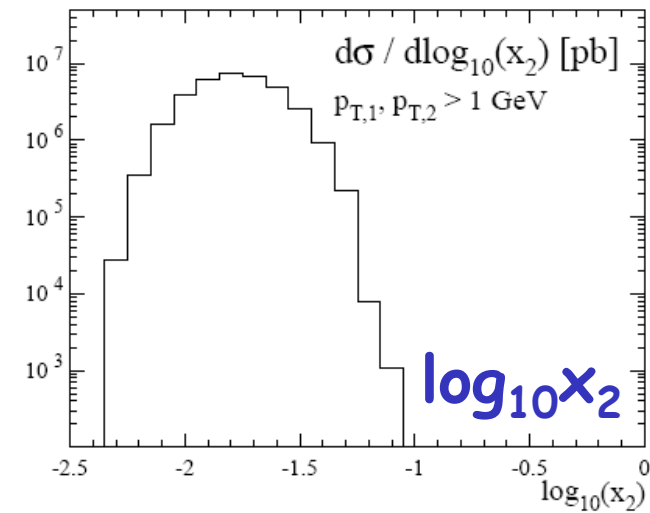
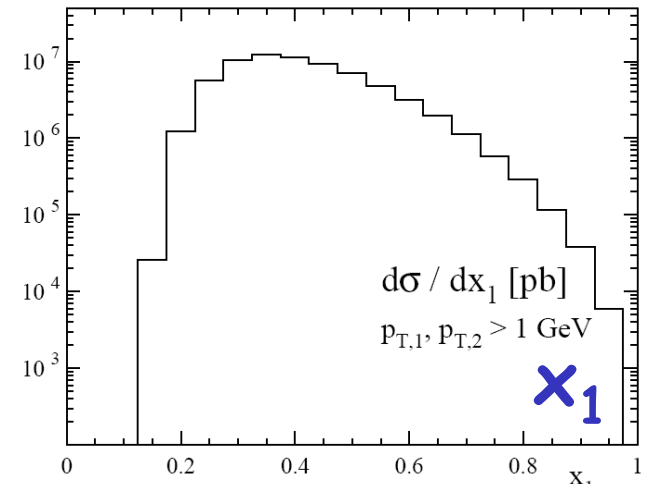
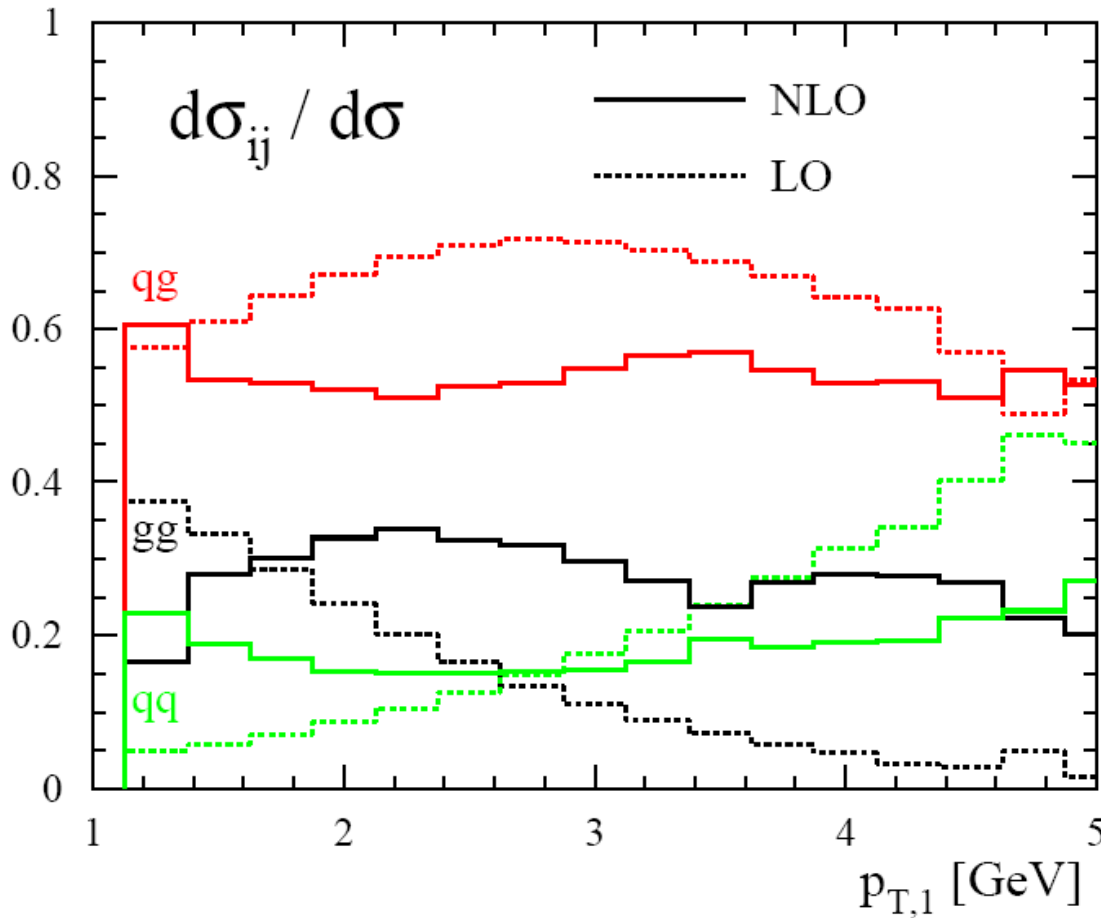
→ confidence in A_{LL} measurements & interpretation



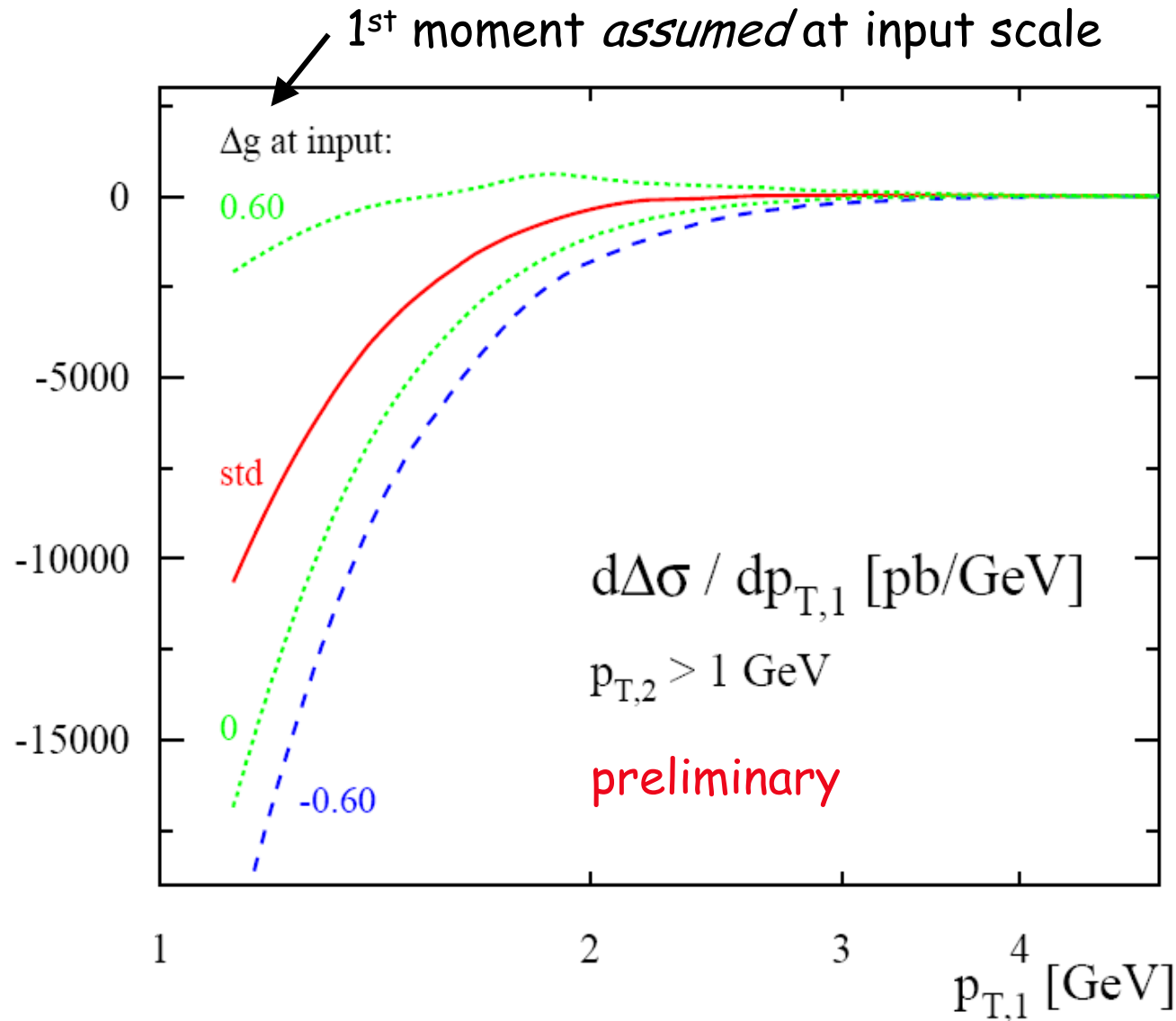
“scan” in p_T of central hadron

- never measured at collider energies
→ test of QCD factorization
- doable both at **STAR** and **PHENIX**
- NLO corrections & scale dependence are substantial

kinematics is as expected:

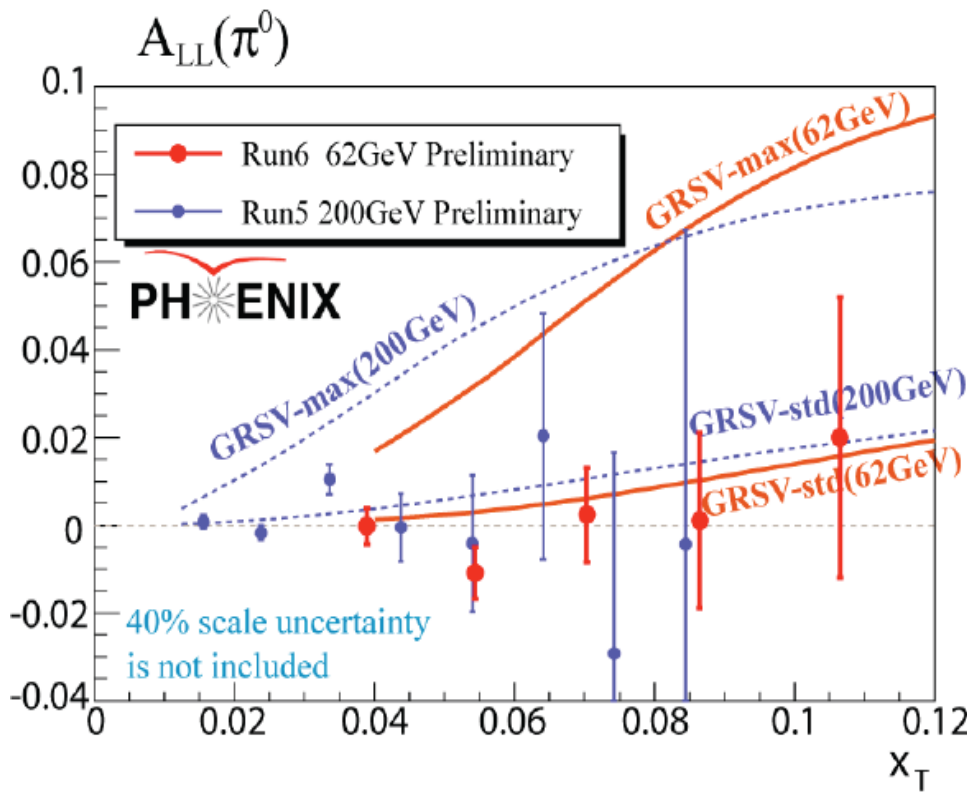


→ sensitivity to Δg (sign!)

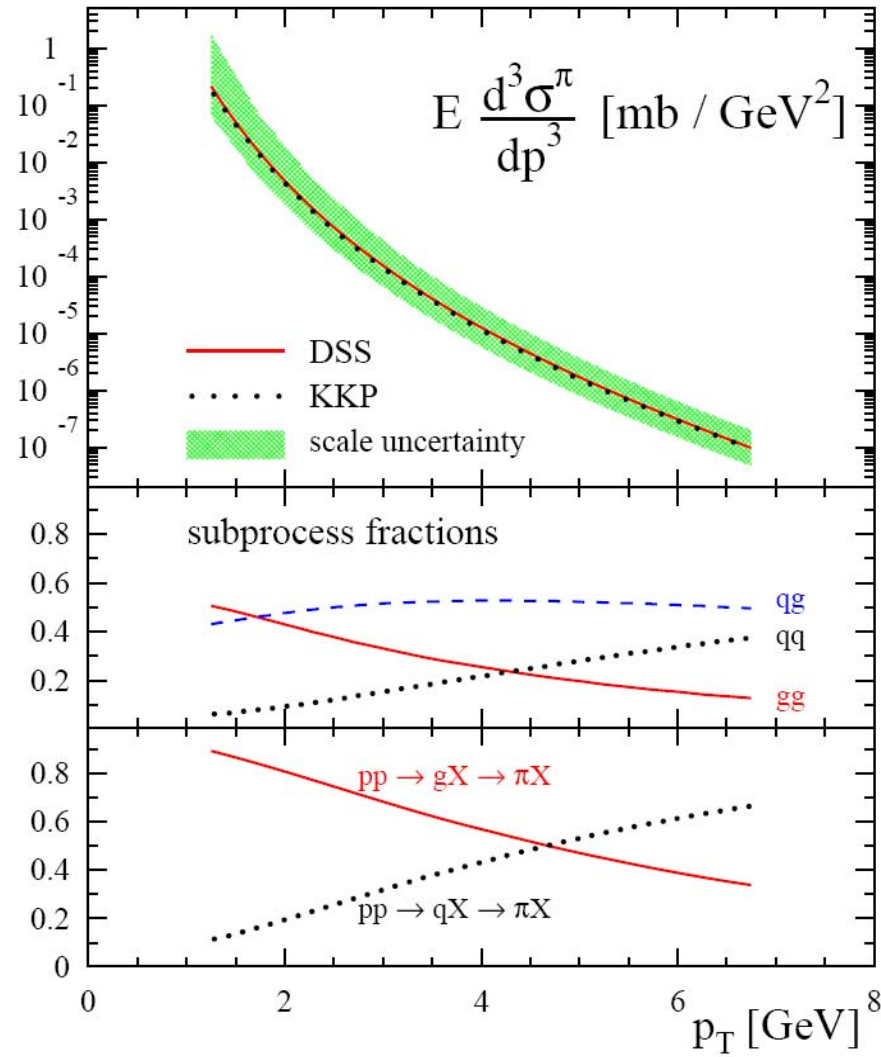


- qq-fraction strongly depends on Δg
- NLO corrections large, in particular, for small "std-like" Δg
- expected A_{LL} 's are only a few $\times 10^{-3}$

new kid on the block: 62.4 GeV data



- explores larger x values
- pQCD at the edge ?
→ testing ground for resummations
- qq scattering more relevant → sign!



could be interesting/important to collect more data at 62 GeV

conclusions

we have just explored the
tip of the iceberg

many avenues for further
important measurements and
theoretical developments

